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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/728,756	12/04/2000	Richard F. Bergen	D/01	2366

7590 04/14/2003

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[REDACTED] EXAMINER

HARRINGTON, ALICIA M

[REDACTED] ART UNIT [REDACTED] PAPER NUMBER

2873

DATE MAILED: 04/14/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	09/728,756	BERGEN, RICHARD F. <i>[Signature]</i>
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Alicia M Harrington	2873

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 21 January 2003.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1,6-10,15,17,22,-36 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 6,7,15,22,23,25-29 and 32-35 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1,8-10,17,24,30,31 and 36 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) approved b) disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All
 - b) Some *
 - c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
 - a) The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____ .
2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)	5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) <u>2 and 6</u> .	6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ .

DETAILED ACTION

Information Disclosure Statement

The Examiner has considered the information disclosure statements filed on 12/4/00 and 1/21/03.

Claim Objections

Claim 31 is objected to as being dependent upon canceled claim 14. For purposes of the rejection the claim will be examined as if it depends from claim 10.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1,8,9,10,17,24,30,31,36 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lang in view of Follis (US 5,237,634).

Regarding claims 1,8-10,17,24,30, 31 and 36 Lang discloses a system for creating a line of light beams using a radiant energy source (10-14) and an altering device (15) where the energy emerges from the altering device to form a line a predetermined plane (see figure 1; col. 2,lines 25-35). Lang discloses the altering device is a fiber optic rod (see figure 5). However, Lang fails to specifically disclose the altering device is a hollow tub with radiant energy projecting into the tube orthogonally. Although, it is well known in the art, as taught by Follis.

Follis discloses a system for creating a light pattern within a plane (level). Follis teaches that the intersection of light orthogonal with a fiber optic rod produces light in a plane (see figures 2a and 2b) forming a line in a circular pattern (see col. 6, lines 34-69). Follis also

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discloses an embodiment where the fibers are configured as a hollow tube (see figure 4b; col. 8, lines 10-69). And upon the laser entering the tube it provides light projected into pattern. Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Lang to provide for plane/line pattern formations when projecting light from fiber orthogonal. And it would have been further obvious that the altering device can have many forms, such as hollow tubes (conical/cone shaped/disk shaped) to provide light patterns in a plane, as taught by Follis.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1,8,9,10,17,24,30,31,36 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Kaelin (US 4,974,957) discloses device for 3-D imaging of laser and/or collimated light; and

Goldstein et al (US 3,790,257) discloses a constructively cooled catoptrics lens arrangement.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Alicia M Harrington whose telephone number is 703 308 9295. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Thursday 9:30-6:00.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Georgia Epps can be reached on 703 308 4883. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703 308 7724 for regular communications and 703 308 7724 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703 308 0956.

Alicia M Harrington
Examiner
Art Unit 2873


AMH
April 2, 2003


RICKY MACK
PRIMARY EXAMINER